



**ALTRINCHAM  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

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**ANNUAL REPORTS**

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health,**

**ALFRED GOLLAND, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.**

**The Inspector of Nuisances,  
Canal Boats, Workshops, &c.**

**JAMES E. CRICKMORE.**

**For the Year ending 31st December, 1920.**



# Altrincham Urban District Council.

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## Report of the Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1920.

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### **BIRTHS.**

The Births registered during the past year were 418—males 210, females 208. This number is equal to a rate of 22.4 per 1,000, as against 15.6 last year.

### **DEATHS.**

The Deaths registered during the year were, nett, 214—males 107, females 107. Infants under one year, 28.

The number is equal to a rate of 11.3 per 1,000, and is calculated on the figures from the registrar's returns to me, corrected as far as possible for deaths in and out of the district.

The deaths from Zymotic Diseases during the year were —Diarrhoea 1, Measles 1, Whooping Cough 1.

There were 32 deaths in the General Hospital of patients from all causes including 15 persons from outside districts.

The deaths under one year of age were 28. Of this total 11 deaths were certified as due to Premature Birth.

The total is equivalent to an infantile death rate of 66.0 per 1,000 children born, as compared with 65 for last year.

Inquests have been held in respect of 23 deaths including 13 deaths from violence.

## **MORTUARY and POST MORTEM ROOM**

A public Mortuary and Post Mortem Room are provided at the Town Hall, by the Council.

## **INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Notifications of Infectious Diseases from Medical Men were—Scarlet Fever 139, Diphtheria 16, Erysipelas 6, Ophthalmia 1, Puerperal Fever 3.

NOTIFIED FROM SCHOOLS.—Measles 39, Mumps 68, Chicken Pox 7, Whooping Cough 15.

Nearly all cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria were removed to the Isolation Hospital. The case of Ophthalmia was removed to the General Hospital under the Maternity Scheme.

Arrangements exist between the Council and the Victoria University, Manchester, for all bacteriological examinations, and Antitoxin Serum is supplied for any cases in the district.

## **DISINFECTION**

The visitation and disinfection of houses, bedding, etc., is the universal rule in all cases of this class, and is carried out free of expense by the Council's officials.

## **ISOLATION HOSPITAL**

The Sinderland Isolation Hospital was erected by the Council and opened in January, 1911, and provides for Scarlet Fever 20 beds, Diphtheria 5 beds, Typhoid Fever 5 beds. There are also two observation wards and all the necessary buildings and plant for the disinfection or destruction of infected articles.

A separate arrangement for Smallpox cases has been made with the Manchester City Council for the reception of cases from this district.

Admitted to Hospital from January 1st to December 31st, 1920 (inclusive of both dates) 38 cases, classed as follows:—

Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Puerperal	Erysipelas	Enteric	Measles
147	21	0	0	1	1

Average length of stay—48 days.

An arrangement exists to receive cases from Bowdon Urban District on a retainer fee.

## **TUBERCULOSIS**

Notifications of cases of Tuberculosis were :—

Form A.—Lungs 30, Abdomen 4, Cervical Glands 3.

Form B.—Nil. Total 37.

Form C.—Lungs 8.

Form D.—Lungs 8.

The action taken in the case of Tuberculosis includes the disinfection of houses and effects by the Council, cards of advice provided for households invaded by the disease, and attention is directed to the surrounding influences.

## **WATER SUPPLY**

The Water Supply is derived from Manchester, and is continuous, abundant and good.

## **FOODS**

MEAT.—There are no private Slaughter Houses in the district, and all the supply comes from either the Council's Abattoir or the Manchester Corporation's Abattoir. Regular supervision is given to the Council's Abattoir. The number of seizures is given in the Inspector's Report.

MILK.—There are two dairies in the district ; in both structural alterations have been carried out. All Milkshops, etc., are under regular and careful supervision, and special regulations are in force with regard to the keeping and sale of milk.

BREAD.—All Bakehouses are regularly inspected and kept in good condition.

## **MARKET**

A general and steady oversight is kept upon the Market, with good results, as to the sale of wholesome foodstuffs only.

Action has been taken whenever unsuitable foodstuffs have been found.

### **SEWAGE, Etc.**

The treatment of the Sewage of the district is carried out at the Council's Farm by sedimentation tanks and land filtration.

As regards the sufficiency of the arrangements at the Sewage Disposal Works, an expert engineer was engaged upon a scheme of additions and improvements. Result—A contract has been let for £13,436, and the work is well advanced

### **SANITARY ACCOMMODATION**

A statement as to the privy and water closet accommodation is given below, including those in the new Dunham Ward :

No. of Common Privies	...	...	...	...	1530
No. of Moveable Receptacles	...	...	...	...	22
No. of Fresh Water Closets	...	...	...	...	2639
No. of Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	...	208
					<hr/> 4399 <hr/>

### **CESSPOOLS**

There are three cesspools in the district in the new Dunham Ward.

### **REMOVAL OF REFUSE**

The removal of dry refuse is carried out weekly, and the cleansing of privies, ashpits, etc., is regularly carried out by the Council's workmen at periods of about once a month or less.

The supervision of this work is carried out by the Surveyor's Department, as recommended by the Local Government Board's Circular.

## **HOUSING**

The Inspection of the District, under the (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, has been carried out under my direction by the Housing Inspector.

Under the 1919 Act, 261 houses have been inspected.

The general character of the defects observed consists of—damaged flooring, defective yard paving, broken plaster on walls, no through ventilation, and minor structural defects.

### **Erection of Workmen's Dwellings**

A very suitable site has now been obtained, partly by the gift of 20 acres of land by the Earl of Stamford, and partly by the purchase of 30 acres adjoining that site by the Council. Plans for laying out the site have been prepared, and the Housing Committee is devoting itself energetically to the pushing forward of a scheme for the provision of about 480 houses.

The population of Altrincham is already so dense and there was practically no suitable uncovered land for such a purpose with the result that the Council have been obliged to acquire a site outside its own boundary. An application to the County Council was made for extension of boundaries and an enquiry was held in October, 1919. The County Council has in September last granted an extension of about 600 acres, including the site purchased.

The Council has erected dwelling-houses under the Housing Acts, and there are at present in occupation 25 five-roomed cottages, which let at a rental of 6/6 per week ; 11 four-roomed cottages at 5/6 per week ; 22 four-roomed cottages at 4/9 per week ; 24 two-roomed cottage flats at 3/6 per week ; and 4 two-roomed cottage flats at 3/- per week.

The planing of the cottages has had special consideration, and allowance has been made for abundant open space and ventilation.

### **Offensive Trades**

The Council has had under consideration the question of making an Order declaring certain trades to be offensive

trades, under the Public Health Act. This Order has now been made and is in operation in the District. Under this, one such business has been established on the Moss.

### **Notification of Births Act, 1907**

Under this Act the Council appointed Nurse Bardsley as Visitor, and, the notice necessary having been given to practitioners, nurses, and parents in the district, she began her duties on May 1st, 1915, and has carried out much very useful work since. In the early part of last year a second Health Visitor was appointed.

I was, fortunately, able to back the Council's provision with a pre-existing voluntary scheme for feeding poor mothers, expectant and nursing, and to make other arrangements, so that there is now working a fairly complete method of dealing with this matter.

The Maternity Centre is now carried on at the Technical School (September 6th, 1916).

Every Tuesday the M.O.H. and the second Health Visitor attend for the supervision of children between one and five years.

Every Wednesday the M.O.H. and the Nurse attend, and the babies are weighed, a record of their progress kept, and advice, etc., given. Sugar at cost price was sold to mothers of artificially fed infants. This is now discontinued, and a grant of £10 yearly is given by the Council for necessitous infants. Rate-aided milk has been given in 122 cases.

I have been able to arrange with the Board of the Hospital that all children needing operation, etc., can be sent there for treatment. Also, the Board has extended its scope of operation so as to include the admission of mothers in labour, where such labour is dangerous or requiring operative treatment.

The report of the Health Visitors' work is given in tabular form.

### **General**

The Inspector's Report on the Sanitary and other work done during the year, is added.

ALFRED GOLLAND,  
*Medical Officer of Health*



# Maternity and Child Welfare.

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## Annual Report.

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I beg to make my report of the work from January 1st to December 31st, 1920.

Number of live babies notified—Males 218, females 206.  
Total 424. Stillborns—Males 8, females 5, Total 13.

Number of first visits to babies...	...	...	...	396
Total number of visits to babies	...	...	...	5426
Number of first visits to expectant mothers...				84
Total number of visits to expectant mothers...				252

All sanitary defects, overcrowding, etc., noted whilst visiting, were reported to the Sanitary Inspector.

I also inspected five houses re Scarlet Fever, and notified to Medical Officer of Health three cases of Scarlet Fever, who were attending School.

### School for Mothers

Total number of individual babies...	...	...	...	349
Total number of babies weighed	...	...	...	2545
Making an average of 48 per week.				

### Sewing Class

This Class was opened 48 times during the year, and was attended by 764 mothers, making an average of 15 per week.

During the year I gave 40 Health talks at this Class.

A Lecture was also given by Mrs. Jacobs, of Manchester.

Rate-aided milk has been granted during the year as follows :—

Free	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77	cases
At half-cost	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45	„

Total number of cases 122.

Visits re Tuberculosis 35.

H. W. BARDSLEY,  
*Health Visitor.*

# REPORT FROM JANUARY 1st to DECEMBER 31st, 1920.

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Total number of visits paid	...	...	...	...	4643
Total number of visits paid to children over one year and under five years	...	...	...	...	4464
Total number of first visits	...	...	...	...	167
Special visits re infectious disease	...	...	...	...	122
Measles	...	...	...	...	27
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	10
Chickenpox	...	...	...	...	3
Scarlet Fever (suspicious cases, excluded from School)	...	...	...	...	10
Smallpox Contacts	...	...	...	...	4
Mumps	...	...	...	...	68
					<hr/> 122
Sanitary visits at request of M.O.H.	...	...	...	...	57

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## Child Welfare, held on Tuesdays.

Number of individual children...	...	...	...	...	66
Number of attendances	...	...	...	...	194
Average attendance for the 52 weeks	...	...	...	...	3

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Visits to Kingsway Lavatory for Women—not included among above visits	...	...	...	...	4
Sanitary defects reported to Sanitary Inspector	...	...	...	...	8

E. F. A. LERESCHE,  
*Health Visitor.*

# **Altrincham Urban District Council.**

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## **SANITARY DEPARTMENT.**

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### **Annual Report**

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1920.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
ALTRINCHAM,  
17th January, 1921.

Dr. ALFRED GOLLAND, M.R.C.S.,  
10 Lyme Grove,  
Altrincham.

SIR,

I beg to submit my report on the work executed by the Sanitary Department during the year 1920.

#### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.**

##### **Water Supply**

The water is supplied on the constant system by the Manchester Corporation, and has been plentiful and pure.

There are two cottages and one farm in the Dunham Ward which obtain their supplies from wells, and the quality of the water was under investigation at the close of the year.

##### **Rivers and Streams**

Inspections have been made at various times of the water courses in the district, and while they have been fairly free from pollution, they are by no means free from obstruction.

## Sanitary Accommodation

The following figures are as close an estimate as is possible in the absence of a house register of the district. It will be seen that the number of privies is less than the figure given in previous annual reports, and this is due to the number of voluntary conversions which have taken place.

Number of privies with fixed receptacles...	...	1530
Number of privies with movable receptacles...		22
Number of fresh water closets ... ..		2639
Number of waste water closets... ..		208
		<hr/>
		4399
		<hr/>

So far as I am aware there are no hand-flushed closets in the district.

## House Drainage and Conversions of Privies into Water Closets

Fifty-eight houses have been completely redrained during the year, all in connection with the conversion of privies into water closets.

Privies converted under Section 39, Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 (half cost payable by Council ... ..	32
Privies converted under Section 36, Public Health Act, 1875... ..	22
Privies converted by arrangement with owners	4

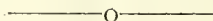
Tipping ashbins were provided in most cases where wet ashpits were abolished. This work is carried out by the Surveyor and his staff, and an application is to be made to the Ministry of Health for permission to borrow £4,500 to convert 300 privies in the district.

Owners of property should give immediate attention to defective drains, but this is not always possible, and especially when there is contention that these defective pipes form a sewer repairable by the Council. In such cases it is necessary

to point out in what manner the pipes constitute a drain. Delay is thereby caused in remedying the defect owing to the unsatisfactory definition of the terms :—"Drain" and "Sewer." Some towns have special powers in Private Improvement Acts, and the law in one town often differs materially to legal powers in an adjoining district. It is very desirable that a new definition should be included in a new compulsory Consolidated Public Health Act, in order that the law might be uniform in all towns. This is required in the interests of Public Health, because delay and inattention to defective drains is dangerous.

### **Scavenging and Removal of Refuse**

The removal of refuse is carried out under the direction of the Surveyor.



## **Sanitary Inspection of District.**

The following inspections have been made by the Inspector of Nuisances during the year :—

	Inspections.
Dairies and Milkshops ... ..	72
Cowsheds ... ..	6
Bakehouses ... ..	56
Canal Boats... ..	78
Slaughter Houses ... ..	98
Common Lodging Houses ... ..	38
Workshops and Workplaces ... ..	390
Smoke Observations ... ..	11
Infectious Disease ... ..	258
Houses Inspected ... ..	261

### **Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops**

Inspections have been made to the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops registered by the Council, and action has been taken where necessary.

### **Bakehouses**

In the majority of instances, the registered Bakehouses were inspected twice during the year. Limewashing had been

carried out in many cases previous to the visit of the Inspector, and in others after the receipt of informal notice from the Council. There were two bakehouses at the close of the year which had not been recently limewashed and were receiving the attention of the Council.

### **Canal Boats**

The Canal within this Urban District is the Bridgewater, which is one mile one furlong 9-1/3 chains in length. Seventy-eight Canal Boats were inspected during the year. Seventy-six were found to be in a satisfactory condition, and two unsatisfactory, namely :—Paint of cabin requires renewing and no certificate of registration on board. The Council have received a communication from the owners to say that the cabin has been painted and a new certificate of registration issued by the Registration Authority.

### **Slaughterhouses**

There are no private slaughterhouses in this Urban District. The slaughtering of animals takes place in the Public Abattoir in Moss Lane. Special facilities are provided for the slaughtering of pigs, in addition to the slaughtering of cattle and sheep. Gut scraping and tripe boiling is also carried out on the premises. Ninety-eight Inspections were made during the year, and the premises have been limewashed in accordance with Bye-laws.

The quantity of meat condemned is as follows :—

Meat affected with Tuberculosis, 3 tons, 19 cwt.

Meat affected with Septic Conditions, ½ cwt.

Before disposal the majority has been seen by the Medical Officer of Health. The Council have made arrangements with a horse slaughterer for its removal, after special treatment, to a fat extracting works in Trafford Park. By this method a large quantity of stuff, which was previously destroyed as useless, is now utilized, and placed upon the market in the form of soap.

### **Common Lodging Houses**

One Common Lodging House has been discontinued during the year. Several small repairs have been executed, and there are two statutory notices outstanding, but on account of age and poor condition, renovation on a large

scale is out of the question. Limewashing has been executed in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Act.

### **Houses Let in Lodgings**

The Council will make application to the Ministry of Health to sanction the proposed new Bye-laws which have been completed.

### **Workshops and Workplaces**

There are 191 workshops and workplaces on the Register. These were inspected during the year, limewashing having been executed, except at two workshops, where limewashing had not been completed at the end of the year.

### **Outworkers' Premises**

Three outworkers' premises were reported to the Council, and these were inspected and found to be satisfactory for the work intended to be executed therein. One case of infectious disease occurred in the house of an outworker, and work was suspended for a period.

### **Smoke Observations**

Eleven Smoke Observations of one hours' duration were recorded, and many others of shorter duration. In no case did the emission of black smoke exceed the time limit allowed by the Council.

### **Houses Inspected**

The inspection of houses has proceeded on the same lines as in the previous year. Two hundred and sixty-one houses were inspected under the Housing of District Regulations, as compared with 219 in the previous year. Defects were found to exist at 147 houses, and at 98 the defects had been remedied. It is not always possible to get small defects remedied speedily, as most contractors seem to be engaged on big jobs. The usual defects found were bad floors and staircases, dampness, defective ceilings and plastering, dilapidated fireplaces, bad paving in yards and wash-houses, old foul sandstone sinks, windows which do not open, foul and defective drainage, not trapped or ventilated, leaking and insanitary privies. The defects were dealt with by the service of notice upon the owners under the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1919, or by meeting the owners or their representatives at the property, and pointing out the defects to them.



## Hackney Carriages

As the result of conferences between representatives of Altrincham, Bowdon and Hale, a uniform set of Bye-laws has been drafted to meet the requirements of the three Urban Authorities concerned. Application will be made to the Ministry of Health to sanction the proposed Bye-laws, which has been approved by the three Local Authorities.

## Disinfection

This is carried out by the Council after all cases of zymotic disease. The rooms are fumigated with "Formic Aldehyde" and afterwards cleansed.

### Notices Served

Statutory notices served during the year	...	330
Defects remedied	... ..	285
Outstanding	... ..	45
Notices served in connection with Infectious Diseases (not included in the above)	...	99
Informal notices served	... ..	356
Nuisances abated	... ..	287
Outstanding	... ..	69

Owing to your resignation of the position of Medical Officer of Health as from December 31st last, this is the last annual report I shall have the pleasure of submitting to you, and I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the courtesy which you have always extended to me, and my sincere regret at the severance of our official relationships.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

JAMES E. CRICKMORE, A.R.S.I.,  
*Inspector of Nuisances.*



**TABLE I.**  
**CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.**

General Order of Local Government Board (Medical Officer of Health  
and Inspectors of Nuisances), December 13th, 1910.

**ALTRINCHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

Tabular Statement of Inspector of Nuisances  
for the year ended December 31st, 1920.

Number & Nature of Inspections made	Number	B		C			
		Number of Notices served		Result of Service of Notices			
		Statu- tory	Informal	Notices complied with	Remain- ing in hand	Prosecutions	
						Instituted	Pending
1 Dwelling Houses (General Inspections).....	82	8	17	17	8	...	...
2 Cellar Dwellings .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 Back-to-Back Houses .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Courts, Yards, Passages ...	10	3	1	2	2	...	...
6 Privy-Middens, Earth or Pail Closets .....	89	39	15	40	14	...	...
7 Cesspools .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8 House Drainage .....	45	17	25	40	2	...	...
9 Ditches, Watercourses, &c. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 Offensive Accumulations ...	2	3	...	3	...	...	...
11 The Keeping of Animals (P.H.A., 1875, S. 91 (3) )	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
12 Offensive Trades .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13 (a) Slaughterhouses (Council) .....	98	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Other Places where Food is produced or sold .....	38	...	...	...	...	...	...
14 Piggeries .....	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 (a) Dairies .....	30	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Cowsheds .....	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Milkshops .....	42	...	...	...	...	...	...
16 (a) Factories .....	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Workshops .....	380	...	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Workplaces .....	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
(d) Outworkers' Premises	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
17 Bakehouses (Overground)...	52	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ (Underground) ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
18 Common Lodging Houses.	38	...	...	...	...	...	...
19 Houses let in Lodgings (No bye-laws in force) .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 Smoke Observations .....	11	...	...	...	...	...	...
21 Canal Boats .....	78	...	...	...	...	...	...
22 Infectious Disease Inquiries and Revisits .....	258	99	...	99	...	...	...
23 Miscellaneous (Ashbins, &c.)	267	85	138	195	28	...	...
TOTALS.....	1552	254	196	396	54	...	...

# CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

## Tabular Summary of Sanitary Work 1920

### Altrincham Urban District Council.

<b>I. Water Supply.</b> 1. Have any extensions been carried out during 1920? If so please append brief note. 2. Number of Samples analysed during 1920— chemically bacteriologically 3. Are any, and if so what, parts of your district still without a proper supply of water?	   No.  None None  None
<b>II. Sewerage and Sewerage Disposal.</b> 1. Specify any new works of sewerage carried out during 1920 2. Are any, and if so what, parts of your district still without a proper system of sewers? 3. Have there been any complaints to your knowledge during 1920 as to the disposal works? 4. Have any alterations or extensions taken place to your knowledge in the disposal works during 1920?	   None  —  No. Yes. Very considerable extension of the works have been car- ried out, at the cost of ap- proximately £22,000.
<b>III. Housing.</b> 1. Number of new houses built during 1920? 2. Number of dwelling-houses inspected <b>under s. 17</b> <b>Act of 1909</b> 3. Number of such houses considered unfit for habitation 4. Number of representations made to Local Authority 5. Number of closing orders made by Local Authority 6. Number of houses where defects remedied <i>without</i> closing orders being made 7. Number of houses where defects remedied <i>after</i> closing orders made 8. Estimated or ascertained number of houses <b>within</b> <b>limits of rent in s. 14 of Act of 1909</b> 9. Number of such houses in respect of which notice was served during 1920 10. Number of such houses closed after notice II. Number of such houses where Local Authority has executed necessary repairs, &c. 12. Approximate number of back-to-back houses in district	   Nine  261  Two  None None owing to house short- age  26  None  Cannot say  94 None  1  7

# CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

## Tabular Summary of Sanitary Work 1920

*continued from preceding page.*

### Altrincham Urban District Council.

13. Approximate number of cellar dwellings in district	None
14. What number of dwelling-houses for the working classes has your Council decided are required under the recent Housing Act?	500
<b>IV. Town Planning.</b> Has any scheme of Town Planning been put forward during 1920 for your District or any part thereof? If so please make a brief note of (a) part of District covered by Scheme. (b) Area (c) Population (d) How far has the Scheme progressed at date of making this Report?	A small area in the South Ward 16·103 acres ... The sanction of the Ministry of Health to proceed with the preparation of the scheme has just been received.
<b>V. Maternity and Child Welfare.</b> 1. Has a Health Visitor been appointed—Whole time 2. Are all new births which need visitation seen by Health Visitor? If so how often? 3. Have you any Maternity Centre, Babies' Welcome, Day Nursery, Infant Consultation, School for Mothers, &c., in your district? 4. If the Health Visitor does other work please give brief particulars	Yes. Two Visitors. Yes. Weekly or as necessary. Yes. One devotes her whole time to infants, the other to older children and visitation of infectious disease amongst children.

